

**Claims**

- 1) Method to decode a received data string, comprising the steps of
  - 5     - locating a predefined significant part of the data string,
  - disregarding an insignificant part of the data string, and
  - 10    - further checking only the located significant part of the data string.
- 2) Method according to claim 1, comprising the steps of
  - determining the length of said string
  - 15    - pinpointing predetermined data positions using said length
  - removing data from said string starting from a position determined by said length.
- 3) Method according to claim 2, wherein the determining step consists in locating a predetermined sequence in said string.
- 4) Method according to one of the preceding claims, further comprising the steps of
  - 25    - comparing, byte by byte, different strings assumed to contain identical data
  - taking as correct data those bytes for which said comparison gives the result "identical".
- 30 5) Method according to one of the preceding claims, further comprising the steps of
  - locating a predefined important segment of the remaining data strings as significant part,

- disregarding the data locations that do not belong to said important segment, and
- further checking only the important segments.

- 5 6) Method according to anyone of the preceding claims comprising the further step of
- searching for the most logical data in case that no correct data can be determined.

- 10 7) Method according to anyone of the preceding claims comprising the further step of
- searching for a predefined header code block, and
  - attaching an artificial header code block at the start of the received data string if no such header
- 15 code block is found in the preceding step.

- 8) Method according to anyone of the preceding claims comprising the further step of
- checking for a predetermined set of symbols at a
- 20 predetermined location of the data string, and
- inserting to or removing from the data string symbols so as to shift the predetermined set of symbols to its predetermined location if the check of the previous step did locate them at a different
- 25 position.

- 9) Device for performing a method according to one of claims 1 to 8.

- 30 10) Broadcast receiver being equipped with a device according to claim 9 or being provided for performing the method according to one of claims 1 to 8.